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ACADEMY
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TRUST**



Monks Orchard Primary School
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Welcome to our latest Monks Orchard Primary School Newsletter 17 November 2023

Reception

Reception have been super busy this week, continuing on our Bear Hunt theme. We have been sequencing a collage of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt.' We then went on a real Bear hunt in our nature area, where we saw a bear! We ran super fast, screaming all the way back to our classroom!

We have been practising using our new balance bike, which has proved really tricky, but we persevered and took turns to see who could stay on the longest. This activity really helps our gross motor skills.



Contact Details

Please let us know straight away if your contact details change. It is very important that we can contact parents/carers in case of emergencies.

If you know that there are times when the school will not be able to contact you, please make sure we have an alternative contact—just in case. Thank you.

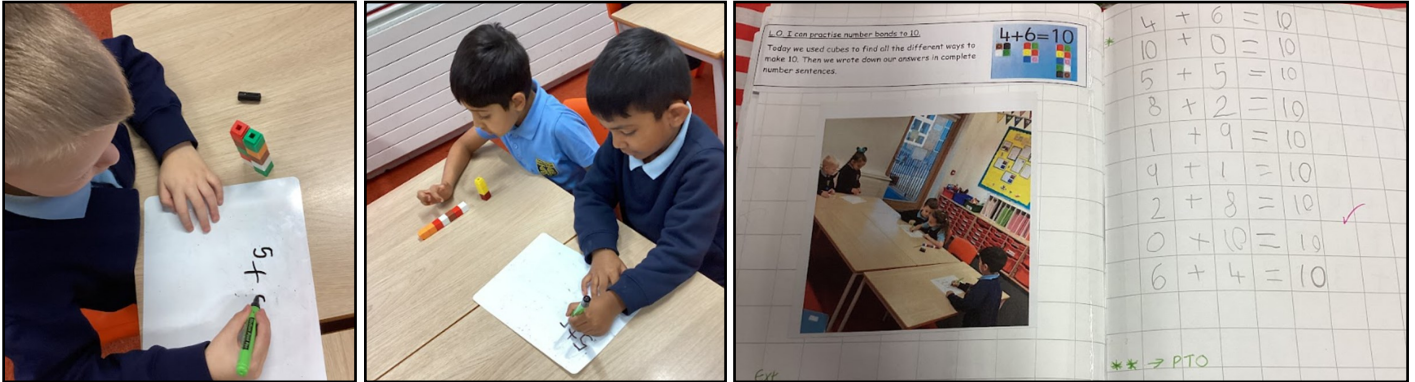
Congratulations to our special Certificate Winners this week

YR, Murphy Class	Kareem , for being an enthusiastic learner, and for enjoying going to phonics with Y1.
Y1, Donaldson Class:	Bobby , for trying really hard with his joined up handwriting.
Y2, McKee Class:	La'Kai , for always being a fantastic role model and showing such wonderful manners.
Y3, Nichols Class:	Panda , for developing the quality her writing, using some of the new techniques we have been learning.
Y4, Zephaniah Class	Jaylan , for trying his best in every subject, all the time!
Y5, Leonard Class:	Elsa , for her improved concentration and effort in maths.
Y6, Jackson Class:	Jayda , for her hard work in all subjects, this week.
Breakfast and After School Club	Elijah (Y5) , for showing empathy to his peers, always being helpful and cheering us up with his lovely smile.



Year 1

Donaldson class have been practising number bonds to 10 this week. They worked in pairs, using cubes to find all the ways to make 10 (some even found ways to make 20). They wrote their answers on whiteboards. Already they're number bond experts!

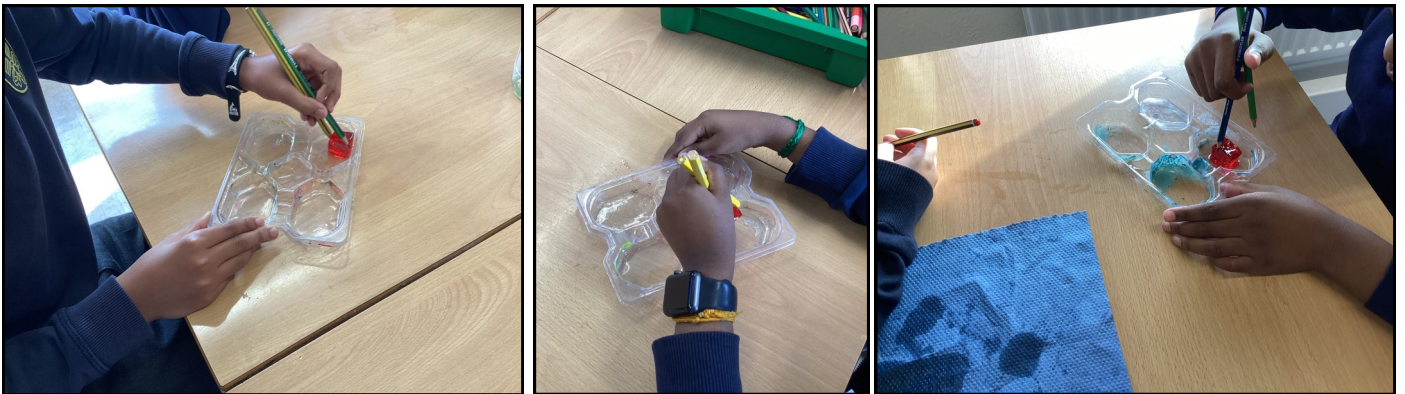


Year 5

We investigated friction using oil and jelly cubes. Each group was given pieces of jelly and they had to transfer them from one plate to another, using pencils like chopsticks.

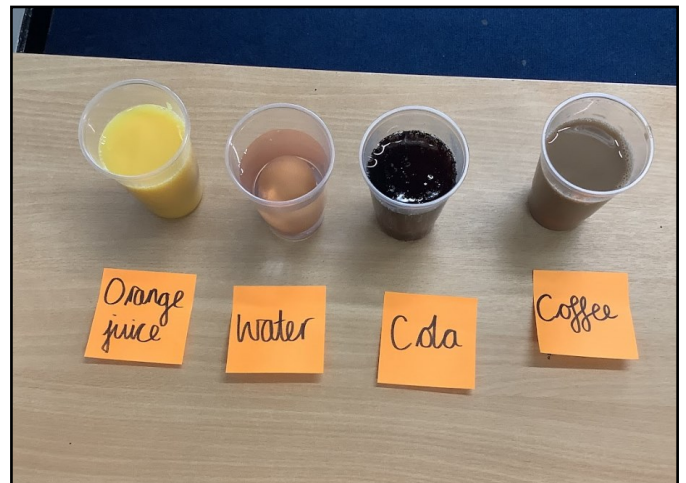
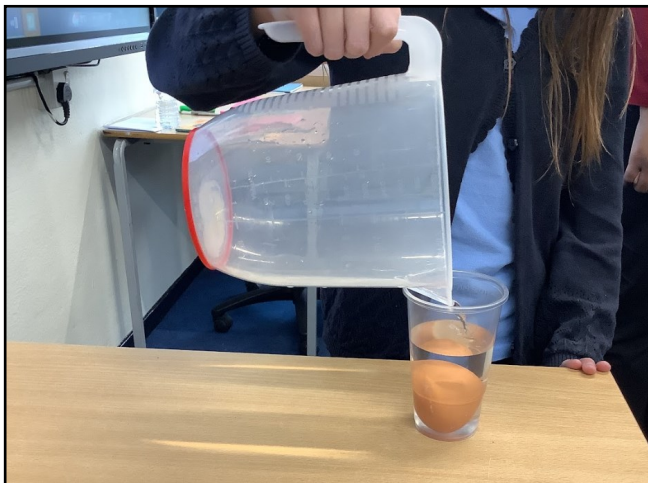
After we covered the jelly in oil, we had to repeat the experiment. This time it was a lot harder to move the cubes because of the oil and the lack of friction between the pencils and the jelly cubes. We used a timer and recorded our results.

We learnt that Friction is the force acting between two surfaces when they slide, or try to slide, across each other. The oil reduces friction and therefore it becomes harder to grip the jelly cubes.



Year 4

Year 4 have started a science investigation this week. We are investigating which drink causes the most tooth decay. We have left a hard boiled egg in different liquids and we will check in a week's time to see which liquid has caused the most damage to the shell of the egg.



Nursery

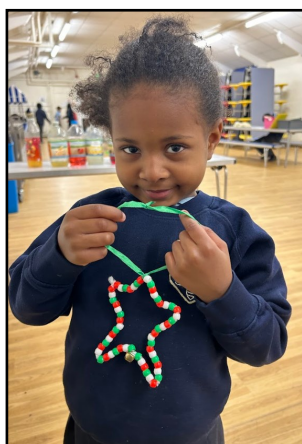
This week in the Nursery the children have loved the rainy weather! We have been on a wellie walk, floating and racing balls in the puddles, chasing our reflections and getting very wet. We then used our wellies to create a wellie picture!

We have been reading 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?' The children have been fantastic at retelling the story to each other. Then they painting their favourite characters from the story. We made so much mess! We then washed all the aprons and used our fine motor skills to peg them on the washing line.



Breakfast and After School Club

The wet weather hasn't dampened our spirits. We started making Christmas decorations (is it too early?), we cooked chocolate chip cookies and made good use of our boardgames.



Harvest Donations

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all those who donated items for our Harvest Festival collection.

The donations have been collected and The Salvation Army were very grateful for the generosity of our families at Monks Orchard. Much appreciated everyone!



Another Blue Peter Badge

Well done to Evan, who has received his Blue Peter Reading Badge! We are eagerly waiting for many more badges to arrive soon!



To earn your Blue Peter reading Badge what you have to do is write to Blue Peter, telling them all about a book you have read. You can even send pictures or digital artwork. Just head to their website for more details.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>

Dates for your diary:

24 Nov: Y4 trip to Horniman Museum

17 Nov: Y6 at Trinity School Concert (PM)

7 Dec: Y6 height and weight checks

8 Dec: Y4/Y6 festive performance (2pm)

12 Dec: Y5 festive performance (9:30am)

13 Dec: Y1/Y2 festive performance (9:15am)

13 Dec: EYFS festive performance (1:45pm)

14 Dec: Y1/Y2 festive performance (2pm)

15 Dec: Y3 festive performance (2pm)

(More details re performances to come.)

Thursday 21 December: last day of school

22 Dec to 7 Jan: Christmas Holiday

8 Jan: Children return to school

17 Jan: Royal Institution Science workshop for parents/carers (PM), *details to follow*

Attendance

Congratulations to McKee Class for this week's best attendance with 100%!

Class	% Attend	Lates
Y2 McKee	100.00%	4
Y4 Zephaniah	96.09%	8
Y5 Leonard	94.57%	4
Y3 Nichols	94.12%	2
Y6 Jackson	91.79%	3
Y1 Donaldson	91.67%	5
YR Murphy	83.89%	4



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